

THE CHAMPION

A NEWSPAPER OF TODAY

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T. E. & Royal B. Child, Publishers and Owners

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Thanksgiving Day, November 26, 1908.

Judge O. S. Farr, a prominent lawyer and citizen of Tampa, died at his home in that city this week.

The government has lost the Florida peonage cases which for the past year have been in the courts. The recent dismissal of the labor agent against whom the charges were made, is a complete vindication and sets at rest the charge that peonage existed in connection with F. E. C. Ry extension.

Terra Haute, Ind., is suffering from a hydrophobia scare, as many as 75 persons having been bitten by dogs within the past summer. The first case developed and proved fatal about a week ago, and a fund has been raised with which to send others to the Pasteur Institute in Chicago for treatment.

The republican national committee has made public the names of those who contributed to the campaign and the sums given. The grand total amounts to a million and a half. The democratic national committee received contributions to the amount of \$619,410, or less than half the amount spent to elect Taft.

Frank C. Huffaker, who has for the past two state fairs at Tampa held the responsible position of secretary, will this year be succeeded by Editor W. F. Stovall of the Tampa Tribune. Mr. Stovall is a hustler, has made a success of his own business and being one of the foremost citizens of Tampa in his support of the Fair, will undoubtedly make a most excellent official.

Germans away from the fatherland are still interested to learn that Emperor William has been shorn of his arbitrary power by injudicious meddling and been compelled, by force of circumstances, to make promise that he will pay more attention to public opinion in the future, and interfere less in governmental affairs. Truly, "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," for rulers may no longer be autocrats, except in America.

Altho a little late in coming, the Thanksgiving proclamation by Governor Broward has arrived. It is a document that will repay careful perusal. Governor Broward urges the people of Florida to be thankful for the blessings of the past year and beseech a continuance of God's favors and mercies, and begs us to forget all sorrow and bitterness and turn with hopeful hearts to the future. It is good advice. May we all heed it.

The CHAMPION last week made a mistake that we wish to correct. The sum offered by the Tampa Tribune for the best editorial article published in any newspaper in Florida on the benefits to be derived from the State Fair is \$25, instead of the much smaller sum stated in these columns. Often we think it unnecessary to correct typographical errors in the next week's paper, but in this instance we desire to give honor where honor is due.

W. C. Langford, tax collector of DeSoto county, is sending out notices to tax payers telling them that the last legislature passed a law allowing a discount of two per cent on all taxes paid during the month of November, and one per cent on all taxes paid during the month of December of each year. He sends out this notice thinking the tax payers would like to take advantage of the opportunity to save a portion of a necessary burden. A good idea.

The U. S. Fleet has received rush orders to coal and provision, and the mobilization of all marines and navy officers now on leave at the Philippines would seem to indicate that a possible emergency is probable, as there is a panic developing in China that threatens to involve Japan. The death of the Emperor and Empress of China has caused internal complications that may terminate in revolution. The report that two of the Chinese imperial guards are being tried for the murder of the Emperor and dowager Empress contributes to the uneasiness of the situation. That the United States should take a hand in any disturbance likely to arise between Japan and China at this juncture could only be in the interest of peace.

Thanksgiving Proclamation

State of Florida
Executive Department

Whereas, There has been handed down to us by our fathers a beautiful custom of setting aside one day in each year for praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God for His many blessings; and

Whereas, The President of the United States of America has proclaimed THURSDAY, November the twenty-sixth, Nineteen Hundred and Eight, as such day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Napoleon B. Broward, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby proclaim said day to be a day of praise and thanksgiving, and call upon all people of the state to appropriately observe it as such.

The people of Florida have been peculiarly fortunate during the past twelve months. While we have been affected in some measure by the financial depression which has prevailed throughout the country, there have not been in our midst any great numbers of unemployed. The vast resources of the State have furnished employment to all who wished to work, and many thousands of our people have toiled happily in garnering the wealth of forest, field, mine and ocean, receiving for their toil a wage sufficient to support themselves and their loved ones. No pestilence has come into our borders; no calamity has befallen us. The seed time has been propitious; the seasons have been favorable; and our harvest has been bountiful.

As the year draws to a close, there are many indications that the business depression which has prevailed for more than twelve months is at an end, and on all sides we see renewed industrial activity.

For all these things, and for the many other blessings which the All-Wise Father has suited unto each of us, let us be thankful, and let us beseech a continuation of His mercies. I recommend that on this day the people cease from their labors, and that, gathering in their churches and homes, they make it a day of praise and gladness. Let all bitterness be forgotten; all sorrow and disappointments left with the other dead things of a dead past. Let us turn to the future, with all its roseate promise, and prepare our hearts and minds for the abundant blessings which God will surely bestow upon those who honor Him.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this the twelfth day of November, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eight, and of the Independence of the United States the One Hundred and Thirty-third year.

(SEAL)

By the Governor. Attest:
H. CLAY CRAWFORD,
Secretary of State.

N. B. BROWARD,
Governor.

Presbyterian Church

Rev. H. Keigwin pastor.
Services every Sunday 11 a. m.
and 7:15 p. m.

Sunday school 10 a. m.
Prayer meeting Wednesday 7:15 p. m.

All cordially invited and welcomed.

SELF DECEPTION

Was the theme of the morning discourse, and the Savior's admonition. Matt. 7:21 was the text. "Not every one that saith unto me Lord Lord shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of My Father who is in heaven."

A profession of religion is utterly worthless for Salvation unless it be accompanied with the practice of Christian service according to the will of God. This is the Savior's clear announcement of unvarying principle. And then he follows the proposition with the saddest of all facts, that a great multitude of careless and self-deceived people will come to the day of judgment, and when too late to rectify their fatal mistake will in utter dismay hear from the lips of the Savior himself the dreadful sentence "depart from me ye that work iniquity."

They had been only professors, and not possessors of religion, only "saying" that Jesus is Master, and refusing to do his will as revealed to them.

Jesus is a prophet, and foresees and announces as indisputable fact that MANY at that day will be utterly astonished and disappointed. And to make the warning emphatic He follows it up by His parable of the house built upon the sand which in the time of storm collapsed in ruin, as a

picture of the destruction of the careless professor of religion, who "heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them not."

Brother, sister certainly you and I will be there, and just as surely will we be on the right hand of God or the left. Which shall it be?

SOLICITUDE

Should be ours in view of the fact that our church membership does not secure salvation. Jesus teaches us the

MIXED CONDITION OF THE CHURCH

(a) In the allegory of the vine, with its unfruitful branches as well as its fruitful. (b) The parable of the field in which the tares are growing with the wheat. (c) The parable of the net cast into the sea, which gathers bad fishes as well as good, and (d) the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, half of whom were foolish. In the end the tares are to be burned, the bad fishes thrown away, the foolish virgins shut out from the marriage feast, and the unfruitful branches of the vine cast into the fire and burned. To which class do we belong in the visible church? St. Paul tells us of such self-deceived people. "For many walk (i. e. with the church) of whom I have told you often, their end is destruction." St. James tells us that the mere hearers of the word and not DOERS deceive their own selves.

TRUE AND SPURIOUS FAITH

Faith saves the soul but not unless it is genuine. Spurious faith only says, "Lord, Lord", true faith is invariably accompanied by the "doing" of the will of God. St. James says that without works it is dead. St. Paul says it "works by love." St. Peter says it "pur-

Timely Views and News

Thanksgiving Day

This is not the regular old Thanksgiving sermon. We are not going to catalog a half-column of things for which you should be thankful. We are not going to repeat the history of Thanksgiving day, and are not going to say anything about dinner. There may be people who won't have any dinner; they will eat mullet.

It may be better to speak of Thanksgiving in a broader sense. Perhaps, if it served no other purpose it would do us good because we are apt under its influence to sit down a minute and try to find out what it is for which we ought to give thanks.

We believe this is your experience.

May be that doesn't sit well with you. May your experience this year has been anything but what you'd like to go through again. Maybe this has been the hardest year of your life.

We thought of that before.

And it doesn't make us hesitate a moment in saying, still, that you ought to be thankful for that experience.

If it has been a Pleasant year, it is easy to be thankful.

If it has been a Hard year, why, then, if you are big enough to see it, you may be thankful for it too, for Hardness has all the richer compensations.

Generally, our vision is so limited. It's so true that we see further than Ourselves at this One moment.

If you could ever teach the man of low intelligence to suffer as you suffer, then he would be able to enjoy as you will afterwards enjoy.

Pleasure and pain are measured only by our capacity to appreciate them.

But finer and richer than all the great joy which is made possible by great suffering is the growth of character that all experience brings. In this year You have Grown. You have Added to Life. If you are stronger for its triumphs, there is cause for thankfulness; it has perhaps brought worse things into your life, at least you know them now.

You have gone up one class in the big universe of human life.

You have Learned during this year, and all the forces of the universe could not have bestowed upon you a more precious gift.

So, be thankful.

And, remember—

Heaviness endureth for a night, but joy cometh with the morning.—St. Petersburg Independent

It certainly does pay to advertise. At least it has been our experience. THE CHAMPION has been a good printer ever so much lately. We took a lot of trouble to the Jacksonville Metropolis in the hope of one of their famous classified advertisements. We got the printer all right, right side up with our heads, and have been kept busy ever since answering letters and letters from competent printers who want to know our position. We had an idea that advertising paid, now we have had a big demonstration of that.

We publish this week the Havana News on the "Country Weekly and Whiskey Advertisement." To say that we are heartily in sympathy with the editor's views is to but express our sentiments. We have stood for a long time on the principle that we could not buy our principles, and that no matter how much cash consideration was offered we would not be of our space to anything that we believed to be detrimental to the human race in general. That THE CHAMPION don't accept whiskey advertisements at any price.

Every Town-Has

A man who wants a public office.
A boy who misbehaves in church.
A tall old maid with a short beau.
A brindle cow and a bob-tailed horse.
More dogs than there is any use for.
A widower who is young for his age.
A man who understands the tariff question.
A young man who does nothing but blow.
A weather prophet who never guesses wrong.
Hens that scratch up other people's gardens.
Several merchants who have push and entree.
A few men who know just how to run a town.
A man who laughs every time he says anything.
A hen-pecked husband and a rooster-picked wife.
Some people who do their trading outside of town.

A mother who sees no good in other people's children.
A married couple who "bill and coo" in public.
Scores of men with the corners of their eyes worn smooth as glass.
A bully that any child can beat.